

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4272

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN MX UY

SUBJECT: EXCELSIOR SERIES CRITICAL OF URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT

1. EXCELSIOR EDITOR JULIO SCHERER GARCIA, WHO IS CURRENTLY VISITING SOUTH AMERICA, WROTE A SERIES OF FOUR HIGHLY CRITICAL AND APPARENTLY WELL-DOCUMENTED ARTICLES CHARGING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT JUAN BORDABERRY IS REPRESSIVE AND DICTATORIAL.

2. IN THE FIRST ARTICLE, SCHERER QUOTES EXCERPTS FROM WHAT PURPORTS TO BE A 19-PAGE SECRET DOCUMENT DATED DEC 19, 1975 FROM BORDABERRY TO THE LEADING GENERALS IN THE URUGUAYAN JUNTA. IF AUTHENTIC, THIS DOCUMENT DEMONSTRATES BORDABERRY'S DEEP DISTRUST OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES AND POLITICAL PARTIES. HE REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT SINCE POWER CANNOT BE DIVIDED AND SINCE POLITICAL PARTIES WILL INEVITABLY BE INFILTRATED AND USED BY MARXISTS, THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD NOT EVEN CONSIDER RELINQUISHING POWER IN URUGUAY.

3. IN THE SECOND AND THIRD ARTICLES, SCHERER CHARGES THAT PRESS AND PERSONAL FREEDOM ARE NONEXISTENT AND THAT THE MILITARY POLICE PRACTICE TORTURE, OFTEN MUTILATING AND KILLING THEIR VICTIMS. HE BASES BOTH CHARGES UPON AN

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IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF ALLEGED CASE HISTORIES AND QUOTED

GOU DECREES. IN THE LAST ARTICLE OF THE SERIES, SCHERER
CRITICIZES THE GOU FOR BOOK BURNING AND REFUSING TO ALLOW
POLITICAL FREEDOM.

4. POST POUCHING COPIES OF THE SCHERER SERIES TO MONTEVIDEO
AND ARA/APU.
THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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